



STATEMENT OF CONSIDERATION  
Relating to 301 KAR 2:132  
(Not Amended After Comments)

I. The public hearing on 301 KAR 2:132, scheduled for February 23, 2015, in the Commission Room at the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources was cancelled; however, written comments were received during the public comment period.

II. The following people submitted written comments:

<u>Name and Title</u>	<u>Agency/Organization/Entity/Other</u>
David Berger, President	United Bowhunters of Kentucky
Perry McCubbin	
Judy S. Roberts	
Charlotte Pridmore	
Gary R. Williams	
Aaron S. Berger	
Frank Nutter	
Vincent Abell	
Brad Abell	
Michael L. Roberts	
Joe Pridmore	
Donald Bailey	

III. The following people from the promulgating administrative body responded to the written comments:

<u>Name and Title</u>
Mark Cramer, Wildlife Program Coordinator
Gabe Jenkins, Wildlife Program Coordinator

IV. Summary of Comments and Responses

(1) Subject Matter: Concurrent archery and crossbow seasons for elk.

Commenter: Joe Pridmore, Charlotte Pridmore, Michael L. Roberts, Judy S. Roberts, Perry McCubbin, Brad Abell, Vincent Abell, Frank Nutter, Aaron Berger

(a) Comment: The commenters oppose a concurrent archery and crossbow seasons for elk.

(b) Response: The current proposal does not consist of concurrent archery and crossbow seasons for elk, but rather an expansion of opportunity for people to hunt elk with crossbows. The current proposal allows an opportunity for people to hunt elk with a crossbow early in the season from September 26 through October 2. It also expands

crossbow hunting opportunity in the October 17 through December 11 season, and allows crossbows to be used from December 19 through December 25. As a compromise, archery-only hunting will take place from September 19 through September 25, December 26 through January 1, and from January 9 through January 18.

(2) Subject Matter: Concurrent archery and crossbow seasons for elk.

Commenter: Joe Pridmore, Michael L. Roberts

- (a) Comment: The Department's justification was based on a false unrelated study and a desire for this change within the elk hunting community (i.e. 2 elk guides).
- (b) Response: While the results of a university-based research project did raise concerns about potential wounding loss for elk with traditional archery equipment, the Department's justification is to increase opportunity for hunters to use an alternative weapon during elk seasons, while still maintaining 3 archery-only hunting periods.

(3) Subject Matter: Expansion of the crossbow seasons for elk.

Commenter: Gary Williams, David Berger, Donald Bailey

- (a) Comment: The commenters oppose the proposed expanded use of crossbows to hunt elk.
- (b) Response: There is very limited opportunity for a hunter drawn for an archery/crossbow tag to use a crossbow under the current framework, which mirrors the deer crossbow season. The Department's proposal represents a compromise in allowing increased opportunity for hunters to use crossbows, while still maintaining 3 archery-only hunting periods.

(4) Subject Matter: Expansion of the crossbow seasons for elk.

Commenter: David Berger

- (a) Comment: The proposed change in a direct violation of the crossbow compromise of 2005-2006.
- (b) Response: The decision that was reached in 2005-2006 was never intended to be a permanent regulation or solution. All Department regulations are open to possible modification or amendment depending on the situation. Additionally, the mentioned compromise did not include extended crossbow hunting opportunity for elk.

(5) Subject Matter: Proposed voucher cooperator system

Commenter: Joe Pridmore, Charlotte Pridmore, Michael L. Roberts, Judy Roberts

- (a) Comment: An individual or group could subdivide large tracts into 100 acres and obtain several tags.
- (b) Response: The Department's proposal is purely intended to open up additional private lands for elk hunting. A voucher cooperator will only be issued an elk tag if enough elk are harvested on their land for the landowner to accrue 20 total points (2 points per bull, 1 point per cow).

V. Summary of Statement of Consideration and Action  
Taken by Promulgating Administrative Body

The public hearing on this administrative regulation was cancelled; however, written comments were received during the public comment period. The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife

Resources responded to the written comments above and will not be amending 301 KAR 2:132.